



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2903.0.55.002 - How Australia Takes a Census, 2006

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 27/07/2006 First Issue

MEDIA RELEASE

July 27, 2006

Embargoed 10:00am (AEST)

ACT36/2006

Census Collectors coming a-knocking tomorrow

Every household in Australia should expect a knock on the door soon as Census Collectors will start delivering forms tomorrow.

Collectors will be delivering forms from Friday 28th July until Census Night - Tuesday 8th August. After Census Night, they will return to pick-up the completed form.

They will be easily identifiable with their bright yellow Census bags and identification passes.

The Census is run every five years by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and counts everybody in Australia, excluding diplomats and their families.

According to manager of ACT and south east NSW Census operations, Alan Masters, Census Collectors have their work cut out for them.

"Our Collectors are recruited from all districts and communities in Australia, and are the backbone of the Census," said Alan.

"They will be busy - there are around 13 million forms to be delivered across Australia before Census Night.

"Each Collector is responsible for delivering and collecting forms from 200 to 500 households, depending on how populated their area is.

"Information from the Census is vital for understanding our changing communities and making sure the most appropriate services and programs are in place."

Accurate population counts from the Census also form the basis for distributing around \$40 billion of GST revenue to states and territories.

The number of seats each state and territory has in the House of Representatives is also based on Census population information.

This page last updated 17 May 2011

© Commonwealth of Australia

All data and other material produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) constitutes Commonwealth copyright administered by the ABS. The ABS reserves the right to set out the terms and conditions for the use of such material. Unless otherwise noted, all material on this website – except the ABS logo, the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, and any material protected by a trade mark – is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Australia licence